



Howard County Council

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3430 Court House Drive
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COUNCILMEMBERS

Jon Weinstein, Chairperson
District 1
Calvin Ball, Vice Chairperson
District 2
Jennifer Terrasa
District 3
Mary Kay Sigaty
District 4
Greg Fox
District 5

Quarterly Meeting
County Council and Board of Education
July 17, 2017
C. Vernon Gray Room
4:30 p.m.

Minutes (approved)

The Chairperson opened the meeting at 4:32 p.m.

Council Members Present: Jon Weinstein, Chairperson; Calvin Ball, Vice Chairperson; Greg Fox; Mary Kay Sigaty; Jen Terrasa.

Board of Education Members Present: Bess Altwerger, Vice Chairman; Kirsten Coombs; Christina Delmont-Small; Mavis Ellis; Sandy French; Ananta Hejeebu; Anna Selbrede.

County Staff Present: Jessica Feldmark, Council Administrator; Craig Glendenning, County Auditor; Gary Kuc, County Solicitor.

School System Staff Present: Kathleen Hanks; Michael Martirano; Renee Kamen; Bruce Gist; Jeeni Griffin; Sandra Austin.

Feasibility Study

Dr. Martirano provided an overview of the feasibility study purpose and process, population projections and their inter-relation to the capital improvement plan, and recommendations for additional capacity considerations, capital improvement projects, and boundary adjustments. Dr. Martirano stressed that these recommendations are presented for review as the beginning of a process. No final decisions have been made. The Feasibility Study is being translated into Spanish, and the Council will be notified when it is available.

Comprehensive Redistricting – Plans and timeline for 2018-19 implementation

Dr. Martirano stressed again that the recommendation of the Feasibility Study is presented for review and serves as the starting point for the Attendance Area Committee process. For the first time, the school system will be streaming and broadcasting the Committee meetings. The AAC does not make a final decision, but rather a recommendation to the Superintendent. The

Superintendent will present a recommendation to the Board, and the final decision will be made by the Board.

Renee Kamen explained the process of collecting feedback on draft attendance area plans through the online survey tool and emails or calls received. All comments are categorized by topic and by polygon to be shared with the AAC. AAC should have its recommendation out by mid-August. Then staff will take the Feasibility Study plan and the AAC's recommended attendance area plan out to the community for regional meetings. The best way for community members to share their comments at this point is to contact the school planning office directly (schoolplanning@hcpss.org or 410-313-7184).

Council Members requested the following additional information:

- Include in FAQs clarification that the Board makes the final decision, not the County Council or any other elected officials
- Stronger clarification of when (at which meetings) the public will be able to give input
- Clarification of different data sets reported for different purposes, how they differ in what is included, and when each data set is pulled

New High School Site(s)

Dr. Martirano provided an update on environmental studies at the Mission Road site and an overview of the challenges of two potential Elkridge sites that have been evaluated. He reported that the Phase I and Phase II environmental studies for the Mission Road property have been completed and a second outdoor air monitoring test is being conducted. He described two potential school sites in the Elkridge area and the challenges associated with each. Bruce Gist described staff's analysis of where population growth will create the greatest need for a high school.

Council Members requested the following additional information:

- Explore the possibility of a smaller high school model in Elkridge
- Maps that show potential sites with the specific site constraints of each
- Clarification of when the 13th high school seats are factored into the projections in the Feasibility Study
- Copy of the air quality monitoring results when they are available
- Results from the first air quality monitoring tests

Budget Update

Dr. Martirano provided an overview of the \$20 million deficit in the Health and Dental Fund and measures the school system is taking to begin to address this issue. Holly Sun has reached out to stakeholders to convene joint meetings between Administration and HCPSS to work together on strategies to address the structural deficit. Mr. Glendenning will attend those meetings and report back to the Council. Jeeni Griffin and Sandra Austin joined Dr. Martirano to address questions from Council and Board Members.

Council Members requested the following additional information:

- Updated projections for the Health and Dental Fund through FY2018
- Ensure that all the data discussed in these meetings is made available to the public

Dr. Altwerger requested that the Council table the APFO legislation to allow the Board to discuss and possibly recommend amendments.

Mr. Weinstein announced that the next joint meeting of the Council and the Board will be held at 8:30 a.m. on Wednesday, October 11, at the County Council.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:10 p.m.